

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 16, 2005. Claims 1 to 5 are pending in the application, with Claim 1 being in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1 to 5 have been amended to clarify the claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,178,493 (Lenk). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to transfer control among a plurality of CPUs and a plurality of memory devices or IO devices. An instruction is transferred from a CPU to a destination device, and read data is transferred from the destination device to the CPU when the instruction is a read instruction. The read data is transferred at time separate from the time of transferring the corresponding read instruction. Information associated with a CPU which issues a new instruction and information associated with a destination device of the new instruction are held. Information associated with a CPU which issues an instruction which is suspended and information associated with a destination device of the suspended instruction are also held. The transfer of a plurality of read data is controlled in accordance with an order of transferring the corresponding read instructions based on the held information.

With specific reference to the claims, independent Claim 1 recites a transfer controller which is connected to a plurality of CPUs and a plurality of memory devices or

IO devices. The controller comprises transfer means for transferring an instruction from a CPU to a destination device and for transferring read data from the destination device to the CPU when the instruction is a read instruction, the read data being transferred at time separate from the time of transferring the corresponding read instruction. The controller also comprises holding means for holding information associated with a CPU which issues a new instruction and information associated with a destination device of the new instruction, and for holding information associated with a CPU which issues an instruction which is suspended and information associated with a destination device of the suspended instruction. The controller also comprises order control means for controlling the transfer means to transfer a plurality of read data in accordance with an order of transferring the corresponding read instructions based on held contents of said holding means.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or fairly suggest the features of Claim 1, and in particular is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of (1) read data being transferred at a time separate from the time of transferring the corresponding read instruction, and (2) transfer of a plurality of read data in accordance with an order of transferring the corresponding read instructions.

Lenk relates to a multiprocessor stalled store detection system that generates and sends a signal to all processors indicating a store request has stalled. (Abstract of Lenk). However, Lenk is not seen to disclose or fairly suggest at least the features of (1) read data being transferred at a time separate from the time of transferring the corresponding read instruction, and (2) transfer of a plurality of read data in accordance with an order of transferring the corresponding read instructions. Accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claim and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', is written over a horizontal line.

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